

# Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Volume 15 • Number 21 • March 13, 2001

UNIVERSITY TO  
HOST 2001  
BLACK SAGA  
COMPETITION,  
PAGE 1



Riversdale, the historic house where the University of Maryland may have been conceived by Charles Calvert, is undergoing a slow transformation to restore its historic sense of place.

## New Policy Affirms Commitment to Four-Year Baccalaureates

Full-time University of Maryland students are expected to complete their undergraduate degrees in four years, according to a policy that President Dan Mote has adopted as official university practice.

The policy, outlined in the "University of Maryland Statement of Expectation of Progress Toward a Degree," states that in order to graduate in four years, "students must plan carefully in consultation with an academic advisor, declare a major early, and complete 30 credits each year, which is usually accomplished by completing a normal course load of 14 to 16 credits each semester and by completing general education and major requirements in a timely manner."

The statement acknowledges that "students who change majors, who declare a major late in the sophomore year, who enroll in a limited number of select programs, or who take advantage of certain special opportunities that enrich the undergraduate experience may require up to five years to complete a degree."

The statement goes on to say that "all students should develop and regularly review a multi-year course plan for completing their intended pro-

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## Birthplace of University Reborn

Beside the north doorway of the grand hall of the historic Riversdale Mansion someone has gouged a quarter-inch wide, six-inch long scratch and penciled tiny words beside it.

It is not the work of a vandal in this early 19th century relic a few miles south of the University of Maryland campus. Rather fittingly, it is the work of a historic paint consultant who has painstakingly peeled through nearly 200 years of paint jobs. The pencil marks record the dates of each layer.

Since it is entirely possible that the idea for the University of Maryland first sprang into Charles Calvert's mind in an adjoining room, the Riversdale Mansion is of as much interest to some people at the university as it is to Edward Day and the staff of the Riversdale Mansion.

One reason to preserve historic places is to try to experience the sense of place that influenced decisive moments in history. The ghosts of events past seem to linger on ancient battlegrounds and in the rooms where great documents were written and debated.

Day, who is director of the Riversdale Mansion and a graduate of the University of Maryland, is overseeing a patient and thorough effort to restore the original sense of place to a building that was once the center of a large and thriving plantation, where notables of the early federal government sojourned, and where the tragedy of American slavery flourished as an economic reality.

As carefully selected teams of archeologists, historians and artists carry out the restoration work, the museum staff is also trying to raise public awareness of the building and its history, in part to help raise money for the work.

"This work takes years," says Day. "You need the right artists, technicians and interest." At least at the university, the interest has been growing, from President Dan Mote and his wife

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## A Test of Knowledge, A Chance to Shine

*Area elementary school children bring black history competition to campus*

It's 8:15 a.m. and fourth grade teacher Pia McClean is backstage with nine nervous children. In just a few minutes, they'll get up in front of the whole school to show what they've learned about the African-American experience.

Some of the children quiz their teammates, leafing through dog-eared study guides—80 pages jammed with 741 questions. For weeks they've been studying at lunch, after school, and at home.

McClean is nervous too. She got the students involved in this and

wants things to go smoothly.

"We've got a program to put on," she says, as she puts a green cloth around each student in the manner of headdresses worn by African elders and chiefs.

This is the first year that children at the Barnaby Manor Elementary School in Oxon Hill, Maryland are taking part in a growing, statewide program: the Black SAGA Competition. The brainchild of university geographer Charles Christian, the African-American history competition has grown over

the past decade from a single school to nearly 40 across the state. Hundreds of fourth- through eighth-graders take part. The winners from each school advance to a statewide championship at the university.

The nine children—three per team—take their seats on stage, as uniformed students file into the auditorium class by class.

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## New Center to Study Impact of Global Climate

The U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and the University of Maryland, two institutions with expertise in the scientific and policy issues of global climate change, are joining forces to advance the understanding of these vital and complex issues.

Maryland and PNNL are creating a Joint Global Change Research Institute in College Park that will investigate the scientific, social and economic implications of climate change, both nationally and globally.

"By combining the capabilities of our two institutions, we expect to have a powerful impact on the study of global climate change,"

said Lura Powell, director of PNNL, a premier DOE research and development laboratory that is based in Washington state and operated by Battelle.

"We are looking forward to partnering with the university's first-class faculty and graduate students in economics, public policy, earth and environmental sciences, engineering and the social sciences. Maryland has strong research interests close to our own, and an understanding of exactly the collaboration we had in mind," said Powell.

The new institute will bring together some 25 PNNL climate change researchers now based in Washington, DC, including well-

known scientists Bill Chandler and James "Jae" Edmonds, with many top Maryland faculty and research scientists. Maryland's participants, such as global change research pioneer Konstantin Vinnikov, bring leadership in a host of climate-change-related research areas ranging from atmospheric chemistry to remote sensing to resource economics.

"The two institutions are already bonding faculty, students and lab researchers through research projects and student research advisory committees and we expect our collaboration to grow quickly," said William Destler, vice president for research and

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# dateline maryland

Your Guide to University Events  
March 13-21

## Tuesday march 13

9-11:30 a.m., Workshop: "Writing PRD Expectations: The Key to Performance and Productivity," a PRD training class for all employees. 1101U Chesapeake Building. Register online at [www.personnel.umd.edu](http://www.personnel.umd.edu). For more information, call 5-5651.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Workshop: "Managing and Conducting the PRD Process: PRD Training for All Supervisors." 1101U Chesapeake Building. Register online at [www.personnel.umd.edu](http://www.personnel.umd.edu). For more information, call 5-5651.

12:30-2 p.m. Forum: "Digital Dialogues: Feminist Space in the Wired Classroom." Discussants: Katie King (Women's Studies), Carol Burbank (Theatre) and Barbara Shaw Perry (American Studies). Digital Dialogues is a series of brown bag events designed for faculty, graduate students, and staff interested in exploring issues surrounding the intersections between humanities research, teaching and new technologies. For more information, contact Sandor Vegh, 5-1354 or [veghs@otal.umd.edu](mailto:veghs@otal.umd.edu) or visit <http://otal.umd.edu/amst/mini-center/dd/>. 2M 100E McKeldin Library.

4 p.m., Physics Colloquium: "The Spin of the Moon and What it Teaches Us About the Standard Model." With David Hertzog, University of Illinois. Lecture Hall, 1410 Physics. Preceded by a reception at 3:30. For more information, call 5-3401.

4:30 p.m., Lecture: "Text/Photo Couplings in Sophie Calle's True Stories." With Johnnie Gratton, head of the French Department at University College, Dublin. Sophie Calle is a contemporary French photography-based artist. Dr. Gratton has written extensively in the field of French literature and, in particular, on the work of Roland Barthes. 2309 Art-Sociology Building.

5-8 p.m., Dinner: "Steak and Salmon Tuesday." Includes salad, a choice of grilled steak or salmon, and dessert. Golf Course Clubhouse. For more information, contact Nancy Loomis at (301) 403-4240 or at [nloomis@dining.umd.edu](mailto:nloomis@dining.umd.edu).

6-8 p.m., Dance Performance: "No Less Black" with Gesel Mason, Artistic Director, Mason

Rhynes Productions. 0130 Nyumburu Center. (See article on page 3.) For more information, contact Meriam Rosen, Department of Dance, at 5-3189 or [mr32@umail.umd.edu](mailto:mr32@umail.umd.edu).

6-10 p.m. Class: "Contemporary Ballroom." 2111 Stamp Student Union. For more information, contact Kathy Broady, 4-8489; [kbroad@union.umd.edu](mailto:kbroad@union.umd.edu).

6-10 p.m., Workshop: "Rape Aggressive Defense for Women." 0110 Armory. For information, contact Larry Volz at 5-4504.

## Wednesday march 14

9-11 a.m., Workshop: "Corporate Time Basic Client Training." 0121 Main Admin Building. For more information, contact the Training Coordinator at (301) 405-2945 or [oit-training@umail.umd.edu](mailto:oit-training@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.oit.umd.edu/sc/WWW/corpreg.html](http://www.oit.umd.edu/sc/WWW/corpreg.html).

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Linguistics Colloquium: "Richard Kayne on Questions About Constituents and Structure." Co-sponsored by the Linguistics Departments of Georgetown University and the University of Maryland. Marie Mount Hall. For more information, contact Graciela Tesan at 5-6947 or [graciela@wam.umd.edu](mailto:graciela@wam.umd.edu).

12-1 p.m., Research and Development Meeting: "How School Integrated Transition Programs Affect Post-school Outcomes for Students with Disabilities." With Ellen Fabian, Associate Professor, Counseling and Personnel Services. 0114 Counseling Center (Shoemaker Building). All interested faculty, staff, and graduate students are invited to attend. For more information, contact Stacey Holmes at [seholmes@wam.umd.edu](mailto:seholmes@wam.umd.edu).

12-1:30 p.m., Discussion: "Students Learning from Students in Large Lecture Classes." Lounge, Anne Arundel Hall. (Details in **For Your Interest**, page 8.)

1-1:45 p.m., Workshop: "Corporate Time Designate Training." 0121 Main Admin Building. Registration is required at

[www.oit.umd.edu/sc](http://www.oit.umd.edu/sc). For more information, contact the Training Coordinator at 5-2945 or [oit-training@umail.umd.edu](mailto:oit-training@umail.umd.edu), or visit [www.oit.umd.edu/sc/WWW/corpreg.html](http://www.oit.umd.edu/sc/WWW/corpreg.html).

6-8 p.m., Dance Performance: "No Less Black" with Gesel Mason, Artistic Director, Mason Rhynes Productions. 0130 Nyumburu Center. (See article on page 3.) For additional information, contact Meriam Rosen, Department of Dance, at 5-3189 or [mr32@umail.umd.edu](mailto:mr32@umail.umd.edu).

6-9 p.m., OIT Workshop: "HTML II: Using Tables and Formatting for Web Page Layout." More features of HTML, including enhanced tag attributes, tables, internal document links, custom backgrounds and text colors. Prerequisites: Introduction to HTML & a WAM account. 4404 Computer & Space Science. For more information, call 5-2938 or e-mail [cwpost@umd5.umd.edu](mailto:cwpost@umd5.umd.edu), or visit [www.oit.umd.edu/PT](http://www.oit.umd.edu/PT).

7 p.m., Lecture: "Classism and the Black Community." With Linda Williams, Department of Government and Politics. Multipurpose Room, Nyumburu Cultural Center. For more information, contact Renique Quick at 4-8341 or [cor413@yahoo.com](mailto:cor413@yahoo.com).

7-8:30 p.m., Yoga Class. Parents Gallery, Stamp Student Union. Contact Alicia Simon at 4-8492.

8 p.m., Performance: "André Watts in Concert." Artist-in-residence at the School of Music and one of the world's most beloved concert pianists, Watts performs works by Beethoven, Chopin and others. Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Call 5-7847.\*

## Thursday march 15

3:30 p.m., Lecture: "Accelerating Discovery: The Promise and Realities of Genomics." With Eugene W. Myers, Vice President of Informatics Research, Celera Genomics. Part of the "Leveraging Corporate Knowledge" series. Rouse Room, Van Munching Hall. For more information, visit

### calendar guide:

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for *Outlook* is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the *Outlook* office.

**Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication.** To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to [outlook@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:outlook@accmail.umd.edu). \*Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (\*).

### Corrections to Outlook's March 6 issue:

In "Task Force: Limited Internet Voting Appears Feasible," the Internet Policy Institute's location was incorrectly reported. It is based in Washington, D.C.

In "Michael Collier Named State Poet Laureate," the age of one of Collier's sons was incorrect. He is 13 years old.

[www.rhsmith.umd.edu/ces](http://www.rhsmith.umd.edu/ces).

3:30-5 p.m., Lecture: "Clause-Integration in Discourse—A Comparison of English and Chinese with Application to Second Language Acquisition." With Wendan Li, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Multi-Purpose Room, St. Mary's Hall. Lecture is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Department of French and Italian. For more information, e-mail [cg141@umail.umd.edu](mailto:cg141@umail.umd.edu).

8 p.m., Performance: "African Drumming Concert." Dynamic world music comes to campus courtesy of Diali Djimo Kouyate and the University of Maryland African Drum Ensemble. Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 5-7847.

8 p.m., Performance: "Left Bank Quartet—in Memory of Robert McCoy." Faculty string quartet and guest cellist pay tribute to their late colleague in a program featuring Schubert's beloved masterpiece, the Cello Quintet in C Major. Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Call 5-7847.

## Friday march 16

12 noon, Lecture: the Neuroscience and Cognitive Science Program 2001 Spring Seminar Series presents Stephen Grosberg, Department of Cognitive and Neural Systems, Boston University. Each seminar is one hour long, followed by a short discussion period and light luncheon. 1208 Biology-Psychology Building. Visit the NACS Web site at [www.life.umd.edu/NACS](http://www.life.umd.edu/NACS) or call Sandy Davis at 5-8910 for more information.

3 p.m., Mathematics Colloquium: "Group Actions on One-Manifolds." With John Franks, Department of Mathematics, Northwestern University.

8 p.m., Performance: "Larissa Dedova, Piano." Faculty member Dedova performs an all-Chopin program of solo works for piano. Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Call 5-7847.

## Saturday march 17

9 a.m.-5 p.m., Conference: "Semi-Annual Workshop on Dynamical Systems and Related Topics." First day of a 4-day conference sponsored by the

Department of Mathematics and IPST, as well as by the University of Pennsylvania and the NSF. Coffee, fruit, and bagels will be served in the Math Department Lounge, Room 3201, starting at 8:15 a.m. For more information, including speakers and abstracts, visit [www.math.umd.edu/~bhunt/01ws/](http://www.math.umd.edu/~bhunt/01ws/).

8 p.m.-3 a.m. Event: "Iranian New Year Celebration." Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. A huge celebration by the ISF (Iranian Students' Foundation). Included: Food catered by Moby Dick House of Kabob, dance and live performance by Farhad and his band. Students (and under 18) \$15; non-students, \$30; free for children under 6. Contact Poriya Moazzami at (301) 484-8969 or at [poriya@wam.umd.edu](mailto:poriya@wam.umd.edu).

## Wednesday march 21

11 a.m., Art Exhibit: "Women of the World: A Global Collection of Art." First day of exhibit. Roundtable discussion and Opening reception on Wednesday, March 28 from 2-5 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. respectively. Art Gallery, Art-Sociology Building. For more information, call the Art Gallery at 5-2763.

## Outlook

*Outlook* is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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## Choreographer Creates Work to Explore Blackness

**G**esel Mason, an African-American dancer and choreographer, reacted strongly when told by another African American that given her history, middle-class upbringing and light skin color, she would never really know what it means to be black.

Out of her reaction came her dance-theater piece, "No Less Black." Her Mason/Rhynes Production group will perform the work Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14 at 6 p.m. in the Dance Theater of the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts.

Mason describes "No Less Black" as "a conversation about, not an assertion of, blackness." In it, she addresses the complex issue of identity, which she views as having both a personal and a communal component.

"No Less Black" asks the question: What part of ourselves is uniquely ours and what part is the influence of our peers, our family, our community? More specifically, it both explores what it

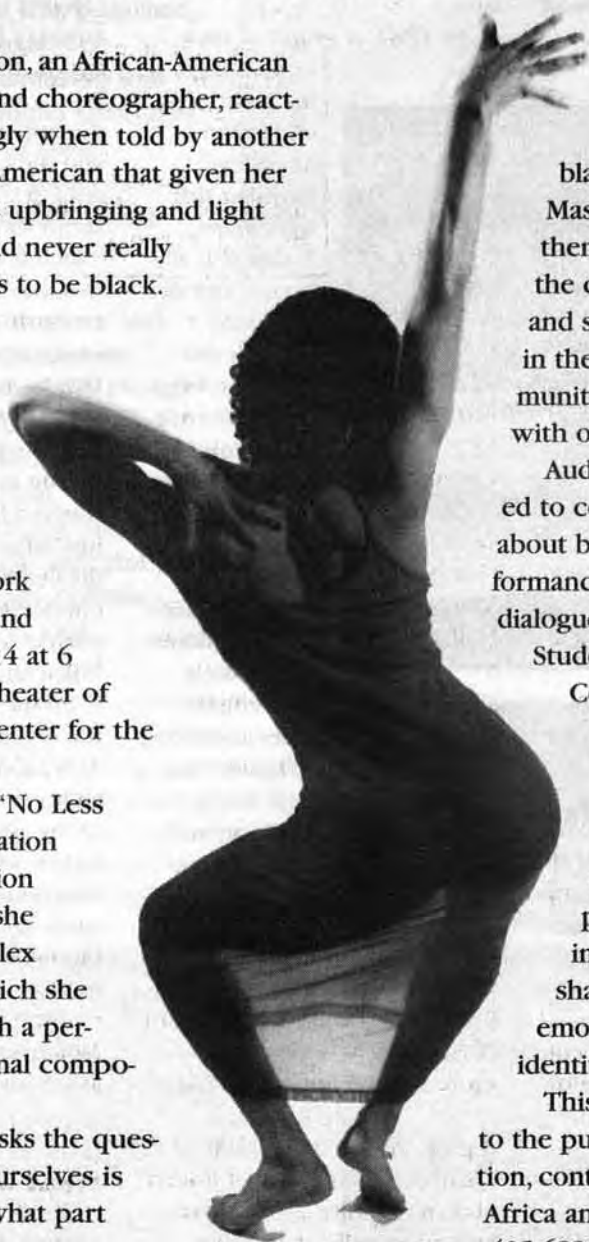
means to feel black and dissects stereotypes and social images of black America. According to Mason, such conversations then allow us "to peek into the complexities of race, color and social responsibility within the African-American community, while finding parallels with our own."

Audience members are invited to continue this conversation about blackness after the performance by participating in a dialogue, sponsored by the Student Intercultural Learning

Center and the Office of Human Relations Programs, which will start at 7 p.m. With the assistance of professionally trained facilitators, participants will break into smaller groups and share their thoughts and emotions about issues of identity.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Committee on Africa and the Americas, (301) 405-6835, or Paul Gorski at the

office of Human Relations Programs, (301) 405-8192.



**Spencer Benson**, associate professor in the Department of Cell and Molecular Biology, was named a Carnegie Scholar by the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Scholars spend one year investigating and documenting work on issues in teaching and learning. They spend two 10-day sessions at the foundation, as well additional time during the academic year. They will also work with scholars from the previous three cohorts.

**Satyandra K. Gupta**, an assistant professor with Computer Integrated Manufacturing Laboratory, is one of nine international recipients of the 2001 Society of Manufacturing Engineers' Robert W. Galvin Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award.

Gupta also received a Young Investigator award from the Office of Naval Research. He will investigate ways to make casting and molding ceramic parts a more affordable process by combining machining and layered manufacturing to create large, complex parts with small features.

Lastly, Gupta won a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development award for a research project titled, "Automated Design of Multi-Piece Molds: A Step Toward Manufacturing of Geometrically Complex Heterogeneous Objects." The five-year, \$375,000 award period begins July 1, 2001.

An Institute for Systems Research team received a three-year, \$500,000 NSF grant for combined research and curriculum development in Systems Engineering. The team includes **John S. Baras**, **Mark Austin**, **Michael O. Ball**, **Jeffrey W. Herrmann** and **Linda C. Schmidt**.

NSF also awarded **Dana A. Nau**, Gupta and Herrmann \$38,445 for a specialized computing environment for distributed and virtual design, and manufacturing. Another NSF grant, for \$400,000, went to the team of Schmidt, **David Bigio**, **Janet Schmidt** and **Robert W. Lent** to create a developmental curriculum in team training for engineering project teams.

**Larissa A. Grunig**, associate professor of communication, has been appointed chair of the President's Commission on Women's Issues. The two-year position begins this semester. She also serves as Special Assistant to the President for Women's Issues, an appointment she received last fall. To fulfill these duties, she is released from one course per year.

## Maryland Room Opens Doors in New Space

When the Maryland Room reopened on Monday morning, February 12th, in its new location on the ground floor of Hornbake Library, History Professor Whitman H. Ridgway had the distinction of being the first person to enter and use the spacious new quarters.

A long-time patron of the Maryland Room when it occupied a portion of the third floor in McKeldin Library, Ridgway was ecstatic about the new facility, especially its brightness, openness, exhibition space, glass front and convenient parking.

Ridgway is one of 20 people, including Doug McElrath, Curator of Marylandia & Rare Books, involved in a Maryland Humanities Council project entitled "History Matters," designed to promote heritage tourism for the state

on a specially-designed Web site. Ridgway is preparing material on the political history of Maryland, while McElrath is concentrating on the literary history. Both

all its associated units were relocated to the new facility. The Katherine Ann Porter Room will also reopen on Hornbake's first floor, and plans call for a dramatic



Student assistant Ozgul Tamur helps the new Maryland Room's first patron, history professor Whitman H. Ridgway.

researchers are relying heavily on the Libraries' Marylandia Collection. Floors 1 and 2 of Hornbake Library have undergone renovation, and the Maryland Room and

exhibition gallery immediately adjacent to the entrance to the new Maryland Room as well. These facilities will be ready later this year.

A search for a new dean for the College of Health and Human Performance will begin in the fall. Jerry Wrenn, current interim dean, is now dean until June 30, 2002 or until a new dean begins his or her appointment. Wrenn has served as interim dean of the college since Aug. 1, 1999.



## Black Saga 2001

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Motivational signs line the walls:

"You can when you believe you can."

"T.E.A.M.: Together Everyone Achieves More"

When the children are seated, sixth grade teacher Jamal Miller takes the microphone:

*This is a historic occasion, the very first Black Saga Competition at Barnaby Manor. These students have worked for more than a month learning more than 700 Black history facts.*

Christian winces at the word "facts." He wants to teach trends and concepts, not trivia.

*As we do every day, let's sing the "Black National Anthem": "Lift Every Voice and Sing."*

When the music ends, Christian takes the microphone, his voice energized:

*We're going to determine which team knows the most about the African-American experience.*

He's careful not to talk about winners and losers. "We don't put students in a position where they will fail. They're all winners," he says later. Encouraging academic excellence and teamwork are two of his main goals.

*These young people know more than 85 percent of the American public about the African-American experience. That's an indictment of a system that has not traditionally supported teaching an inclusive American history. These students have learned more about themselves because they are included in American history.*

Teaching history this way is

another main goal. Spend time with Christian and you will hear him say, "If you don't know African-American history, you don't know American history."

Then he jacks up the energy

Soon, with a little prompting, everyone's shouting it. The competition begins with multiple-choice questions, and the teams do pretty well.

*This popular string musical instrument was brought to*

whether right or wrong. It's a matter of encouragement. "For many of these students it's the first time they've done anything publicly," Christian explains later.

*In 1781, a group of men and women, including 26 of African ancestry, founded this settlement. Today it is the largest city in this state. What is the city? Los Angeles, California or Boston, Massachusetts? Los Angeles is correct.*

As the questions get harder, the children betray their excitement.

After answering correctly, one little boy performs an academic spike, dancing with his shoulders like he's made it into the end zone. A little girl holds her head in anguish when the answer is wrong.

*In 1624, this was the first colony to recognize slavery as a legal institution. Name the colony.*

It isn't enough to answer Massachusetts. To get credit the students have to point out the state on an unmarked map.

*In 1940, this African Ame-*

*rican became the first black general in the U.S. Army. His son became the first African-American general in the U.S. Air Force. Name them both.*

When one team correctly answers Benjamin O. Davis Sr. and Jr., there's wild clapping. But by round number seven, the applause gets a little quieter and the children in the audience restless. On stage, the strain shows too.

*James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamand Johnson wrote the lyrics and music for one of the most popular songs among Blacks today. It is often called the "Negro National Anthem." What is the name of this song?*

The teams huddle for what seems a long time. The children just sang this song a few minutes earlier, but don't make the connection. No one gets the correct answer: "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

In the end, Team #1 becomes the champion by a single point. At least one team got the right answer to roughly 70 percent of the questions. Christian later calls it a good beginning for a first time school. "They don't really understand how demanding this is until they've gone through it once," he says.

Still, the audience greets the results with cheering and wild applause. Principal Laura Barbee reminds everyone, "It takes a lot of courage to be up here and show what you can do."

As the audience heads back to class, fourth grader Cheyenne Washington sits smiling at his certificate of participation. "My mom says I know more than her," he says proudly.

But teacher Pia McClean is already looking ahead to the

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Every student who participates in the Black Saga Competition receives recognition. Clockwise from left: Professor Charles Christian and Woodbridge Elementary School students Kareem Ay Odeji and Asia Coy. After the Woodbridge competitions, some students asked coordinator Brandi Gourdine if they could participate next year.



level in the room:

*What time is it?*

Instead of looking at the large clock on the wall, someone shouts:

*It's Black Saga Time.*

*America by enslaved Africans in the 17th century. Was it the banjo or the violin?*

*Banjo is right. A round of applause.*

Everyone gets applause,

## These are some of the questions Black Saga teams studied before their competitions. Test your knowledge. Answers on page 5

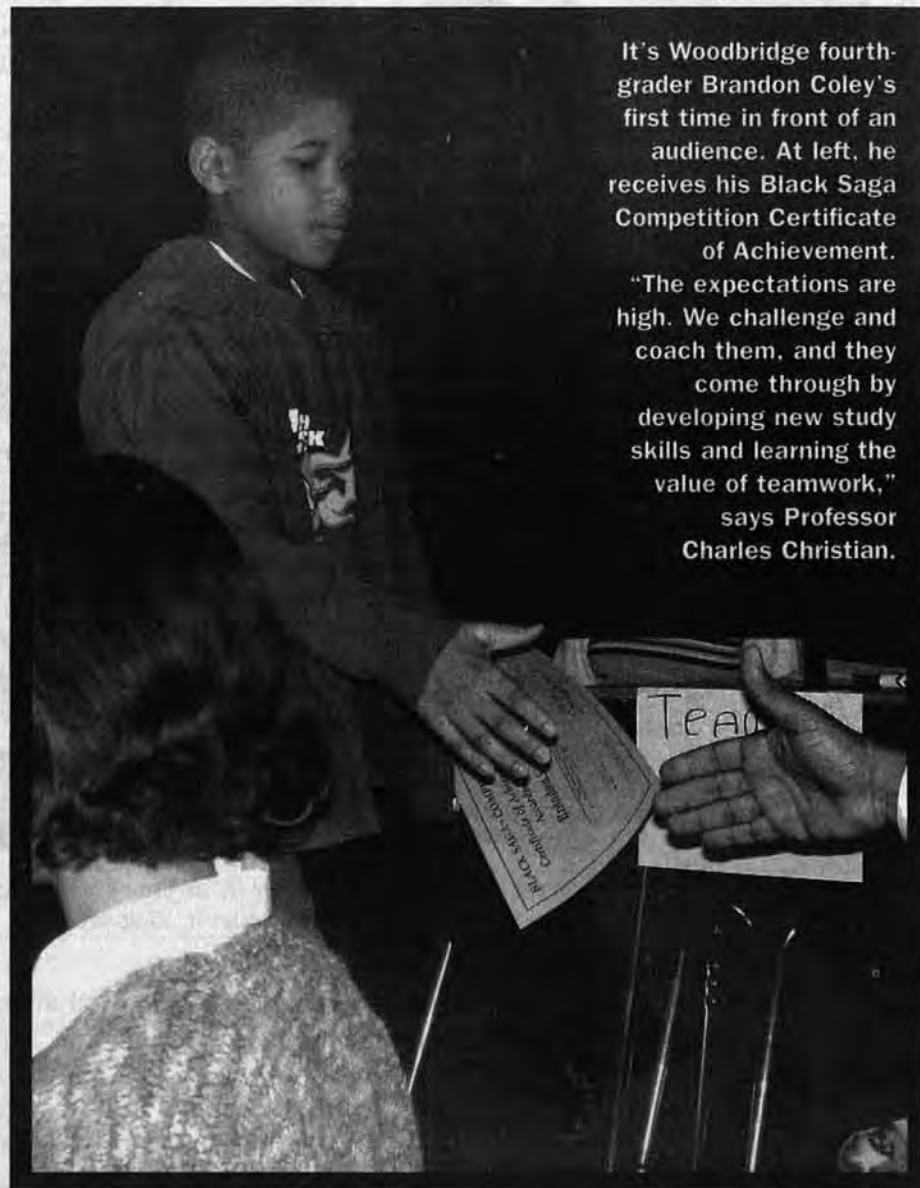
1. There is evidence that suggests that Africans came to the Americas as early as the 8th century. Sculptures reflecting African influence are found in several towns in Mexico. Name the civilization or culture in Mexico that reflects African influence.
2. Name the ship on which the first cargo of enslaved Africans arrived in New England.
3. A typical slave ship traveling from Gambia, the Gold Coast, Guinea or Senegal would take how long to reach New England, Chesapeake Bay, the Gulf of Mexico or the West Indies?
4. In what year did Maryland pass a law recognized slavery as legal?
5. In 1800, what percent of the national population was made up of black people?
6. Jan. 1, 1808 is an important date in the African American experience. What legal action took place?
7. Who, in 1835, was the second known enslaved black person in the U.S. To receive a patent? He was granted patents

for two inventions, the mechanical corn planter (1835) and the cotton planter (1836).

8. This African American visited President Lincoln several times urging him to allow African Americans to fight with the Union forces in the Civil War. This forceful woman was also a lecturer for women's suffrage, helped nurse wounded soldiers during Civil War, and devoted many of her later years helping to resettle freed slaves. Her nickname was Sojourner Truth. What was her real name?

9. In 1943, this African American invented the air conditioner for vehicles. He held as many as 24 patents, most related to two-cycle gasoline engines and apparatus for heating, cooling and refrigeration. In 1991, the National Medal of Technology was posthumously awarded to him, 30 years after his death. He is?

10. This African American diplomat was Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations. He worked to bring peace to the Middle East in the 1940s. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work. Who is he?



It's Woodbridge fourth-grader Brandon Coley's first time in front of an audience. At left, he receives his Black Saga Competition Certificate of Achievement. "The expectations are high. We challenge and coach them, and they come through by developing new study skills and learning the value of teamwork," says Professor Charles Christian.



# Chester Elucidates the Mysteries of the Chad

The butterfly ballot used in the Palm Beach County, Fla. 2000 presidential election was designed to facilitate reader usability. Instead, it caused confusion and created a legal imbroglio that took more than a month to solve.

Charles F. Chester, lead counsel representing the county's Democratic voters, spoke about his experience with a group of university students and professors last week. Chester, who is also an alumnus, argued before the Florida Supreme Court to hold a recount to remedy what he termed "a system failure." At right, Chester (l) addresses his campus audience with Paul Herrnson (r), Director for the Center of American Politics and Citizenship, at his side.



## Black Saga 2001

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state championship. "We'll bring in the parents to help

Teacher Brandi Gourdine learned about Black Saga last fall, so the children got a late start. "We've been at it for about six weeks," she

dren of all races. At a practice session at Beltsville Academic Center, Caroline Wagner, a blonde fourth grader, explained that she

gotten increasing support from the university. Now he wants to see Black Saga expand even further—perhaps nationally. "We're



out with the studying," she says.

It's a reaction Christian has seen before: "Sometimes you're surprised by the difference between the local competition and the state championship." He also likes the idea of parent participation. That, too, is one of his goals.

• • •

The next morning, Christian goes to another school. Almost every day in February he's hosting one of these competitions. Some days he hosts as many as three. And he spends a good part of January at the schools running practice sessions.

This day Woodridge Elementary in Hyattsville is holding its competition.

said. "I'm always looking for ways of learning that have more impact."

Fourth grader Brandon Coley is the only boy at Woodridge participating. "When he asked if he could, I was skeptical," says his mom, Annie Coley. "But I said go ahead, try it." At night after dinner she quizzed him to see how he was doing.

In a close competition, Brandon's team takes the championship. "I'm really proud," his mother says. "He has ADD (attention deficit disorder). I wanted to prove to him that he could be just like everyone else."

• • •

The Black Saga Competition reaches chil-

had discovered a hero and role model as she prepared for the competition: Harriet Tubman, the famous Underground Railroad conductor who repeatedly risked her life. As Caroline put it, "She kept on going. Nothing would stop her and I wish I could be just like that."

On Saturday, March 17, each of the 38 schools in the competition will send their three best teams to the statewide championship at the university. In the morning the elementary students will square off and the 10 best teams will advance to the finals. In the afternoon, the 10 best middle school teams will hold their championship.

Christian began the competition as a labor of love. But as it has grown, he has

anchoring these children to a past," he says. "It gives them hope. You can't have a future unless you understand your past."

1. Olmeca culture
2. Desire
3. Four to eight weeks
4. 1664
5. Roughly 19 percent
6. Congress prohibited the importation of enslaved Africans into the United States.
7. Henry Blair
8. Isabella Baumfree
9. Frederick McKinley Jones
10. Ralph Bunche

ANSWERS

# Making Sure Legal Bases are Covered

A generation ago, the first step in voicing a complaint may have been to sit down and write a stern letter. Later, maybe you staged a protest or rally. Today, if you have a grievance the first thing many people think of is, "Who can I sue?" The university's faculty and staff are involved in so many different programs, both on and off campus, that it is necessary for everyone to be informed about possible legal issues and remedies.

"The most important question is, is it a university-related program? If it is not, then we cannot provide legal advice or other assistance," said Susan Bayly, general counsel for President C.D. Mote Jr. The President's Legal Office only works on matters concerning the university. They do not handle personal matters of faculty and staff, such as divorce settlements or real estate issues.

"We work with the Maryland Office of the Attorney General because they represent all state employees," said Bayly.

There are three different types of claims that the President's Legal Office usually handles. The first is a tort action. This is when a person and/or their property is wronged. The second type is a civil action. These claims include discrimination complaints or other violations of state or federal civil rights. The third type of action is a criminal one. Some specific examples of these actions include:

- injuries due to campus construction, or while performing job function
- injuries to participants in a university-sponsored program students at a for-credit internship who encounter harassment on the job faculty or staffers who work with children and want to report suspected child abuse.

Bayly provided two helpful tips to avoid legal problems. The first tip is if you are working with minors you must create a parental release form to be signed and returned before any program begins. The form must explain all of the activities that the children will be participating in. This way the parents give their informed consent, not just their consent.

The second tip is that volunteers and workers must fully understand the scope of their responsibilities. If anything happens outside of those stated responsibilities the university cannot be held liable.

Bayly provided an example. Let's say you are working with children at a local elementary school. You are a volunteer tutor in a reading program run by the university. One of your students has been working extra hard this week and you want to take him or her out to get an ice cream cone as a reward. On the way there, you get in a car accident. Going out for ice cream was not part of your responsibilities as a tutor and the parents did not give their consent for you to transport their student anywhere. Therefore, the university attorneys cannot represent you if the parents sue. That action was independent of your duties with the university program.

If your department would like to learn more about the legal issues that can arise and how to deal with them, the President's Legal Office is willing to give talks and or training upon request. Call (301) 405-4945. The office is located in room 2101 of the Main Administration Building.

—MEGAN HOLMES





"E-voting requires a much greater level of security than e-commerce—it's not like buying a book over the Internet... Remote Internet voting technology will not be able to meet this standard for years to come." —*President C.D. Mote Jr. was a lead spokesman regarding a study funded by the National Science Foundation, and conducted by the Internet Policy Institute and the University of Maryland. The study said voting through the Internet from home or the workplace should not be allowed in the near future. (Associated Press, Mar. 7)*

"We are figuratively exploding in terms of need for space. We have the oldest (business and research) incubator in the state, but when companies graduate, there is no office space convenient to campus." —*Brian Darmody, assistant vice president for research and economic development, bemoans the lack of companion office space in the College Park area, which limits the benefit of having an incubator like the Technology Advancement Program. The General Assembly is considering having the state pension system fund research parks near universities and federal laboratories for high technology companies. (Daily Record, Mar. 2)*

"In a way, allowing people to identify themselves as mixed race signals that less significance is given to race. If there were just two races and everyone was of one of two categories, that would be an important distinction." —*Judith Lichtenberg, associate professor of philosophy and research scholar at the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, describes one possible effect of changing race designations on Census forms from six to a possible 126 in 2000. Debate over racial statistics gathered in 2000 is likely to be complicated. (Washington Times, Mar. 5)*

"Morici, a former chief economist for the U.S. International Trade Commission, warns of an 'anti-globalization' backlash against companies that profit from intellectual property, particularly in the therapeutic drug markets, such as AIDS treatments. Maryland's \$30 billion bioscience industry is vulnerable to such a threat, at least in part." —*Peter Morici, international business expert in the Smith College of Business, warns that a bioscience patent does not guarantee popularity or compliance in an international market that has poor countries battling disease. (Daily Record, Mar. 3)*

"These awards are important to recognize those who are doing that work, so the young women today can see that it's a viable option." —*Elizabeth McGovern, director of Global Initiatives at the Burns Academy of Leadership, lauds the creation of the Millennium Peace Prize for Women. The United Nations-sponsored award completes a picture of women as activists. Long recognized for rebuilding nations after war, women will now be recognized for their role in peace keeping. (Christian Science Monitor, Mar. 8)*

"My perspective has been actually there's more monitoring (of children) going on than people have tended to think or claim. Parents are finding ways to do at least what they consider important. They haven't abandoned their children to stay home by themselves all the time." —*Suzanne Bianchi, professor of sociology and faculty associate with the Center on Population, Gender, and Social Inequality, spreads the news that parents are generally doing a solid job of being involved with their children. The article was published in the aftermath of the tragic California school shooting. (Newark Star Ledger, Mar. 4)*

## Riversdale Mansion

continued from page 1

Patsy to professors of English and architecture. The staff wants the university to use the historic space for lectures, seminars and small social events.

Discussions with faculty in the School of Architecture about a possible lecture series led to development of an honors course. The English Department's Leigh Ryan will be teaching a Spring 2001 honors course on life at Riversdale based on published letters written by Rosalie Stier Calvert, Charles's mother, during the early years, as well as the journals of the slave Adam Francis Plummer.

Ryan compares Riversdale's significance to the University of Maryland with Monticello's importance to the University of Virginia. Unlike historical homes like Monticello and Mount Vernon, however, Riversdale has served non-residential and non-historical functions in its time. Indeed, it only earned its status as a National Historic Landmark in 1997. It is nearly miraculous that enough remains to try to re-create the historical sense of space.

The Calvert family sold the plantation in the late 1880s, and most of the land was subdivided, eventually becoming Riverdale, Hyattsville, University Park and College Park. The house itself passed through a number of hands and was last used as a residence in 1949, when a former Oregon congressman sold it to



Photos by Cynthia Mitchell

Charles Calvert may have been sitting at a desk much like this one, inspired by the scene on the French wallpaper surrounding him when he decided to set aside a portion of his estate for what is today the University of Maryland.

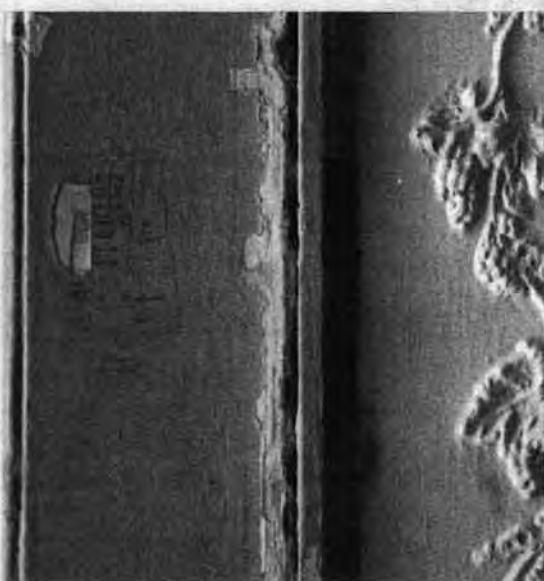
Prince George's County, which used it as office space for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission until the mid-1980s.

Over the years, new paint jobs, structural additions and substitu-

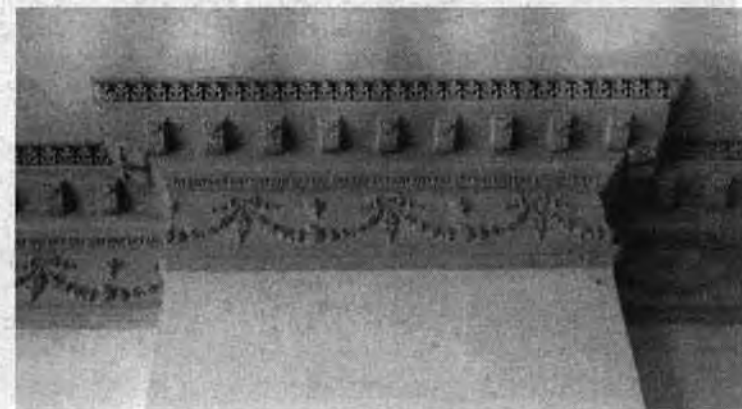
tions, and non-residential uses have changed the character of the mansion. Now, Day is determined to bring it all back.

Through last summer and fall, much of the restoration effort

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A historian carefully cut through and identified decades of paint jobs on the door jamb in the great hallway at Riversdale.



The crown molding in this room was badly damaged but restored by an artist under Day's supervision.

## Four-Year Degrees

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grams. If a student has special circumstances that make it impossible to complete a normal course load, the student should meet with an advisor to discuss the circumstances, the student's plans for continued progress toward a degree, and the implications for full-time enrollment."

Mote said that the policy underscores the university's commitment to provide the appropriate academic and advising support necessary to ensure graduation in four years.

"We are confident that our undergraduates can complete the requirements to a college degree at the same rate as the best students

at any university in the country, and we intend to challenge them to perform to their full potential," he said. "Furthermore, this statement of expectation matches the expectation of most entering students, 81 percent of whom reported in the recent survey of entering freshmen that they expect to complete their degree in four years."

Mote added that in support of this policy, efforts are under way to increase the amount of financial support for students who have had to delay their academic careers for financial reasons.

The most recent figures on graduation and retention rates show that 40 percent of the university's students graduate in four years; 58.5 percent in five years; and 63.2 percent after six years.

The four-year graduation rate is showing an upward trend; 31.8 percent of 1992's freshman class graduated in four years, compared to 40 percent of those who entered the university in Fall 1996.

Long stays in college are thought to increase the financial burden on students and their families, as well as delay the student's entry into the workforce and professional advancement.

The Campus Assessment Working Group (CAWG) will hold a forum on "The Road to Graduation: Some Attitudes and Behaviors that Fuel the Journey," at 12 noon on March 30 in the Maryland Room of Marie Mount Hall.

For more information, e-mail CAWG@umail.umd.edu, or call (301) 405-5590.



## Riversdale Mansion

*continued from page 6*

focused on an outbuilding that may have once been the kitchen but became a storage space for Parks and Planning. Archeologists have been digging up artifacts under the old dirt floors and found the original dirt floor several feet down. The ghost of an old staircase can be seen along the inside north wall. The original locations of doorways and other passages reveal themselves.

"This is probably the highest-tech restoration of a low-tech building ever," Day says, chuckling.

The architect originally hired to evaluate the building recommended it be destroyed. Day was aghast and fought to have it preserved and stabilized.

"We're going to try to save everything we can," Day says. Eventually, the outbuilding could be a site for living history demonstrations as the old fire-box is re-created and put to use for cooking antebellum-style. Inside the main mansion, the work is similar but on a larger and sometimes more delicate scale.

In one room, the cornice molding was badly damaged, and Day supervised the craftsmen who restored it to its original state, using as a model a small piece that was intact. In the cozy downstairs study, a fragment of "story" wallpaper was left. Matching wallpaper was found in the attic of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The found paper has been added to the fragment to complete the pictorial story of a bucolic day on some grand French estate.

That room may be the one of greatest interest to the university, for it was here that Calvert wrote his letters, managed his

accounts and administered his grand estate. The room has been furnished with authentic period pieces and looks as it might have on the day Calvert decided to dedicate 420 acres on the north end of his property to establish "the finest institution in the world," which subsequently became the Maryland Agricultural College and is today the university.

Calvert's four sons were among the first 34 students to enroll when the school opened in 1859.

Mary Naden, education and outreach coordinator for the mansion, thinks often about the lives of the children in the Riversdale Mansion. She notes that the study is directly below one of the bedchambers, and that due to an architectural quirk, the children could have amused themselves immensely by dropping little items through a passageway between the floors.

Come to think of it, perhaps



Photos by Cynthia Mitchell

The architect originally hired to evaluate the outbuilding above—the "dependency"—recommended it be destroyed. Ed Day, director of Riversdale, was aghast and fought to have it preserved and stabilized. Restoration is ongoing.

Calvert conceived of the university as a place to send his children to so he could have some peace and quiet.

Naden and the rest of the staff immerse themselves in the letters of Rosalie Stier Calvert and the rich treasury of other published sources to deepen their understanding of the place and time of the Calverts. They use their ever-increasing familiarity not just with the house, but with the Federal City and the nation of that era to fuel their own ideas of the sights, sounds and feelings that permeated the house during steamy summers and cold winters in the early 1800s.

"We are committed to not just creating a

decorative showpiece, but also to bring about an understanding of the real lives of those who lived and worked here," Naden says. "We're fortunate to have documentation of those lives."

As well, all the staffers have connections to the university. Naden was on the theater department faculty. Historian Ann Wass has her doctorate from Maryland and co-teaches a theater class. Author Margaret Calcott is the wife of university historian George Calcott.

All of them have become intimately familiar with the lives and the culture of antebellum rural Maryland, a time when slaves worked the fields

and tended to the Calverts' household needs, when kitchens were outside and toilets were sometimes hidden in furniture. The fact that life and the landscape of the old Riversdale estate have changed so much is the very reason those working so hard to restore it feel the university should take a deep interest in this historic house.

—GEORGE CATHCART

*Riversdale is open to the public from noon to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors and groups, \$1 for students under 18, and free for children under 5.*



Ed Day and Mary Naden on the grand staircase of Riversdale.

## Global Climate

*continued from page 1*

dean of the graduate school. "We're looking forward to adjunct faculty appointments, initiating new research and enriching the institute's staff with scholars from around the country and the world as visiting faculty," Destler said.

"This promises to be a major science collaboration to explore climate change and its impact on energy, the environment and society," said Gerald M. Stokes, who will be director of the new institute. Stokes is the former associate laboratory director for PNNL's fundamental science effort.

"We are entering a whole

new era in the way society deals with the climate, energy and the environment," Stokes said. "This unique partnership between PNNL and Maryland recognizes and brings together the combined forces of research and scholarship that are required to find solutions for this new era."

PNNL staffers coming to the new institute from the lab's Washington, D.C. office are renowned for their expertise in energy conservation and their understanding of the interactions between climate, energy production and use, economic activity and the environment.

Maryland researchers associated with the institute will come from schools and colleges

across the campus, including the College of Computer Mathematical and Physical Sciences, the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, the A. James Clark School of Engineering, the College of Life Sciences, and the School of Public Affairs.

The new institute also will build on expertise of existing centers and institutes at the university, such as the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, a collaboration between the university and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

The new Joint Global Change Research Institute will be located in a university-managed research building adjacent to campus.

As part of the effort to increase awareness of Riversdale House's historical significance to the university, a series of lectures exploring various aspects of the home will be held.

"Riversdale: Legacies and Links to the University of Maryland" lectures will be held at the house, 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, Md. All lectures run from 7-8:30 p.m. and are as follows:

**March 27:** Author Margaret Law Callcott will discuss her book, "Mistress of Riversdale," which is the edited letters of Rosalie Stier Calvert, Charles Calvert's mother.

**April 3:** George H. Callcott, professor emeritus of history at the university, will give a lecture titled, "C.B. Calvert & the Founding of the Maryland Agricultural College."

**April 10:** John Michael Vlach, a professor of American Studies at George Washington University, will discuss "Slave Housing in Maryland: Life Beyond the Mansion."

**April 17:** The Rev. L. Jerome Fowler, a descendant of the Plummer family of slaves at Riversdale, will talk about "The House of Plummers."

**April 24:** Susan Pearl, with Prince George's County's Historic Preservation Commission, will give a lecture titled, "Old World Master Paintings at Riversdale."

**May 1:** Barbara Carson, who teaches early American Decorative Art for the Smithsonian and the College of William & Mary, will give a lecture titled, "Social Life in the Early Federal City."

*Cost: \$5/lecture or \$25 for the series. For more information, call (301) 864-0420.*



# For Your Interest

## CASTing Call

Join the Center Alliance for School Teachers (CAST) for Talk About Teaching, as they consider The Wife of Bath and her Sisters on March 29 from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Center for Renaissance and Baroque Studies, Room 0135 Taliaferro Hall.

In March, CAST celebrates Women's History Month with ideas for teaching women in literature, from Penelope in "The Odyssey" to Scout in "To Kill a Mocking Bird." Colleagues from all academic levels are invited to join in sharing refreshments, lesson plans and teaching ideas.

For more information, contact Nancy Traubitz, CAST Program Director, at (301) 405-6833.

## Business Plan Competition

The first business plan competition comes to the university. Sponsored by the Hinman CEOs and open to all current students—graduate and undergraduate—as well as recent alumni (up to 5 years after graduation), this competition is the first sponsored by an academic institution in the region. \$50,000 in prizes will be awarded. The deadline for submission of Executive Summaries is April 2.

Finalists will present to a panel of venture capitalists and "angel investors" on May 1 beginning in the afternoon (time TBD). A reception and awards ceremony will take place from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Inn and Conference Center.

Both events are open to the public. For details, see [www.hinmanceos.umd.edu/um-bplan.htm](http://www.hinmanceos.umd.edu/um-bplan.htm).

For more information, contact Karen Thornton at (301) 405-3677 or [karent@eng.umd.edu](mailto:karent@eng.umd.edu), or visit [www.hinmanceos.umd.edu/um-bplan.htm](http://www.hinmanceos.umd.edu/um-bplan.htm).

## First Book Project

The Campus Advisory Board for the First Book Project, is accepting grant applications from your student organization or department through a simple grant application process. First Book's mission, is to give at-risk children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books by providing books to children who are participating in existing community-based tutoring, mentoring, and family literacy programs, and who have little or no access to books. Applications are due no later than Friday, April 6 in Room 2130 Mitchell Building.

For more information, contact Nina Harris or Diane Gaboury in the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Studies at (301) 405-9363, [nharris@deans.umd.edu](mailto:nharris@deans.umd.edu) or [dgaboury@deans.umd.edu](mailto:dgaboury@deans.umd.edu).

## Eating for Life, Health

Celebrate cultural diversity through artistic expression, food and a roundtable discussion on holistic medicine. The President's Commission on Women's Issues, the Women of Color Committee and the Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Education invite the campus community to "Holistic Medicine from a Diverse Perspective," Tuesday, March 27 from 2-4 p.m. in the Maryland Room of Marie Mount Hall.

For more information and to RSVP (by March 21), call Dottie Bass, (301) 405-5618.

## Celebrating Women's History Month

The President's Commission on Women's Issues celebrates Women's History Month with campus events and programs throughout the month of March. All events and programs listed are free to the campus community; some may require invitation. You can contact the sponsoring department or organization for more information on their events.

For a full schedule of events, visit [www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Committees/WomensIssues/CALENDAR.HTML/](http://www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Committees/WomensIssues/CALENDAR.HTML/).

For more information, contact Dianne Sullivan at (301) 405-5806 or at [dsullivan@deans.umd.edu](mailto:dsullivan@deans.umd.edu).

## Tayousei

The Department of Education Policy and Leadership and the Maryland State Department of Education are pleased to introduce an interactive symposium: "Community and Diversity in International Perspective: Japanese Dimensions."

Come learn about Japan's diverse populations through various media, including film, autobiographical fiction, and oral histories. Meet experts in the field of diversity education who will compare and contrast multicultural education in Japan and the U.S. Listen and discuss the politics of difference and their negotiation in Japan's institutions.

The event will take place on March 30 from 4:30-9 p.m. in Room 0130 Tydings Hall. It is sponsored in part by the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C.

A light supper will be served. Please RSVP. For more information, contact Danitza Radichevich at (301) 405-7350 or at [dr171@umail.umd.edu](mailto:dr171@umail.umd.edu).

## Students Learning from Students

The University Honors Center for Learning invites faculty, staff and students to join in a lunchtime discussion. "Students Learning from Students in Large Lecture Classes" will be the topic as an interdisciplinary panel of students and faculty members share their experience with using student-generated course materials to enhance the learning of all students.

Panelists will include Shelly Davis, School of Music; Jeanne Rutenburg, Department of History; Bob Yuan and Anne Smith, Department of Cellular and Molecular Biology and Genetics.

The discussion will take place on March 14 from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Anne Arundel Hall lounge. A light lunch will be served. For more information or to make a reservation (which is required in order to participate in lunch), contact Kathy Staudt at (301) 405-1102 or at [kstaudt@wam.umd.edu](mailto:kstaudt@wam.umd.edu).

## Roche Reflects on Residential Real Estate

Thierry Roche, host of the popular "Inside Real Estate" show, which airs on Business Radio WWRC AM (570) every Wednesday at 6 p.m., will be the speaker at the next meeting of the Investors Group on Wednesday, March 14, noon in Room 4137, McKeldin Library. Roche's topic will be "Opportunities in Today's Residential and Rental Real Estate Markets."

Ranked as one of the top five realtors for Re/Max's Central Atlantic Region, Roche has been in real estate sales for 13 years. He has taught real estate strategies for saving money

on home buying, home selling and residential investing for seven years on the radio and in seminars. He is frequently quoted as a real estate authority and writes as a guest columnist for several local area weekly newspapers.

The Investors Group is a no-fee monthly forum open to everyone on campus and is cosponsored by the Friends of the Libraries and the Department of Personnel Services. For further information, contact Jennifer Royall at (301) 314-5674.

## Women's Health Symposium

Today, women are involved in a delicate balancing act of meeting their professional and personal needs. "It's About Women," a women's health symposium, will feature more than 23 sessions on health, wellness and other vital issues.

The symposium will be held March 31 from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Inn and Conference Center. For registration information, call (301) 754-8800.

## New Faculty/GA Library Card

UM Libraries now offer to faculty members a joint card that can be used by a graduate assistant to borrow materials from UM Libraries for the faculty member, in lieu of using the faculty member's card. The details on how to obtain this card can be viewed at [www.lib.umd.edu/UMCP/PUBSERV/facgrad.html](http://www.lib.umd.edu/UMCP/PUBSERV/facgrad.html).

For more information, contact Terry Ann Sayler at (301) 405-9177 or [ts6@umail.umd.edu](mailto:ts6@umail.umd.edu).

## Writers Here & Now Series

Three Maryland writing alumni—Patricia Elam, Shara McCallum and Josh Russell—will read from their works at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, in the McKeldin Library Special Events Room.

Elam's work has appeared in the Washington Post, Newsday and Essence magazine, as well as in anthologies including "New Stories from the South" and the "1997 O. Henry Prize Stories." She graduated from the MFA program in 1996; her first novel, "Breathing Room," has just been published. She teaches writing at the Writers Center in Bethesda and online for UCLA Extension. She also has provided commentary for National Public Radio, CNN and the BBC.

McCallum, a 1996 MFA graduate, received the 1998 Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize for her first book of poems, "The Water Between Us." Her poems have been published in several anthologies and literary journals. She is on the MFA faculty at the University of Memphis.

Russell's novel "Yellow Jack" was a finalist for the 1999 Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers Award. His short fiction has appeared in several literary journals. He received his BA in English from UM, and now teaches at the University of Florida.

The reading, sponsored by the Creative Writing program's Writers Here & Now series, will be followed by a book signing.

## Mark your calendar!

for May 18, the day of the 19th Annual Professional Concepts Exchange Conference

• for non-exempt staff •

The Professional Concepts Exchange Conference is sponsored by the President's Commission on Women's Issues. The purpose of the conference is to promote the goals of professionalism and excellence among the support staff of the University of Maryland.

For more information, contact Gaynor Sale at (301) 314-9685 or [gs2@umail.umd.edu](mailto:gs2@umail.umd.edu), or Mary Gibson at (301) 314-7343 or [mgibson@accmail.umd.edu](mailto:mgibson@accmail.umd.edu).